

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RAINER TIMPE  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: October 3, 2003  
Title: PROTECTIVE CASE FOR A DISC-SHAPED DATA CARRIER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE**

The relevance of documents AK and AL to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
DOCUMENTS**

English abstracts summarizing the disclosures of the foreign-language publications are submitted herewith.

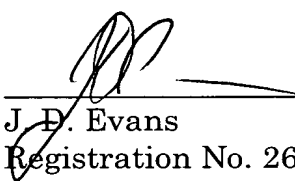
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding International Search Report citing documents AA, AP, AQ, and AR, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

October 3, 2003

  
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JDE/ajf

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Attorney Docket No. 100584.52708US	Serial No. Not yet assigned
	Applicant: Rainer TIMPE et al.	
	Filing Date: Herewith	Group:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AA	5,595,798	2/21/1997	Miller			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	TRANSLATION	
							Yes	No
	AK	DE 198 39 242	3/2/2000	Germany			Abstract	
	AL	DE 198 39 244	3/18/1999	Germany			Abstract	
	AM	WO 93/24927	12/9/1993	WIPO				
	AN	DE 197 34 060	2/11/1999	Germany			Abstract	
	AO	WO 96/19808	6/27/1996	WIPO			Abstract	
	AP	FR 2 813 140	2/22/2002	France			Abstract	
	AQ	WO 95/05661	2/23/1995	WIPO				
	AR	DE 42 21 127	1/5/1994	Germany			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AS	International Search Report dated Oct. 9, 2002					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.